

## **HOW TO ACT IN COURT**

The court is a very traditional and polite place where a certain demeanor (way of acting) is expected. You must act and speak in a way that helps you with your case.

- Be on time! The court has a very busy schedule. If you are late, your case might be postponed to another date or dismissed entirely.
- Dress professionally, as you would for an important event. This means that your clothing should be neat and clean and that you are well groomed.
- Do not bring your children into court.
- Do not chew gum.
- Be respectful to everyone in court. This includes the judge, court staff, the other party involved in your case, witnesses, court bailiff, and any other people in the area.
- Address the judge as "Your Honor."
- Do not use profanity, argue, or verbally react to answers given in court by the judge, opposing party, or attorney. You will have your turn to speak.
- Turn off cell phones and other electronic devices.
- Remove headwear.